

Kit Bond

Sixth Generation Missourian

<http://bond.senate.gov>

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Parents As Teachers News

Kit Bond Commits to \$15 Million Goal for St. Louis Lead Abatement

Since serving as Missouri's Governor, Bond has made children's health one of his top priorities, including making Missouri lead safe for children and pregnant women. Recently Bond announced that he will seek \$5 million in federal funding this year with an additional \$5 million over the next two federal funding cycles to be used to help reduce lead paint in homes that contribute to lead poisoning. The \$15 million will be administered by Grace Hill Neighborhood Health Center in St. Louis, who will partner with other health care and lead prevention advocates to help meet the needs of St. Louis families. In the first year alone, these dollars will make over 300 homes lead safe and serve over 2000 families.

"Our children deserve a future as healthy and bright as their smiles," said Bond, Chairman of the Senate VA/HUD Appropriations Subcommittee. "Healthy, vibrant and growing cities don't just happen. They require a never-ending commitment to rebuild and renew and this money is part of this effort."

Because of their excellent work, terrific record and close relationship with the community, Bond selected Grace Hill Neighborhood Health Center in St. Louis to administer the money and the lead abatement program. Grace Hill currently provides neighborhood organization programs and health programs in ten St. Louis city and county service areas, encompassing 33 neighborhoods.

In addition to the \$15 million goal outlined by Bond, he also confirmed he has secured an additional \$2 million for lead abatement in the fiscal year 2003 Omnibus appropriations bill that was signed into law this March. The \$2 million for lead

abatement was just one budget item in a list totaling approximately \$254 million that Bond secured in the FY 2003 Omnibus Appropriations bill for important environmental, transportation and science projects in St. Louis and throughout Missouri.

Bond Stresses Children's Dental Health at the Jordan Valley Community Health Center in Springfield

Demonstrating his commitment to all aspects of children's health, Bond recently announced that he secured funds for children's dental needs. In March Bond paid a visit to the Jordan Valley Community Health Center (JVCHC) to announce \$400,000 in federal funding for children's dental needs. "These dollars will allow more children to receive the dental care they need," said Bond. "I have long said that by improving a child's health we are improving a child's life."

As the chairman of a key Senate Appropriations Subcommittee, Bond secured the money in the fiscal year 2003 Omnibus Appropriations bill, which was signed by the President in February. These dollars will expand access to high quality dental care for Medicaid patients, and under insured children and families.

The federal dollars will be used to support the Ronald McDonald

Tooth Truck, which will serve public schools, Head Start Programs and foster children. The mobile dental unit will provide at least 3,500 dental appointments annually for more than 1,000 children.

With Bond's help, federal funds will be used to renovate and equip the JVCHC with staff and equipment allowing the center to increase the number of patients serves. By working together, the Ronald McDonald Dental Tooth Truck and the Jordan Valley Community Health Center will expand access to vital, quality, and timely dental services to children and families. "With these funds children will have bigger and brighter smiles and longer and healthier lives," Bond said.



Bond announces campaign to help babies at the 20th anniversary celebration of PAT and Children's Trust Fund.

Bond Secures \$500,000 for Guadalupe Center Early Childhood Education Project

Recently Bond toured the Guadalupe Center's Plaza de Niños where he announced that he secured \$500,000 for their early childhood development program.

"We must ensure that our children have access to high quality early learning programs," said Bond, who's advocacy for early education programs began with the birth of his son. "These funds will boost the efforts underway to provide quality early learning programs for the children of the west-side."

The federal funding secured by Bond will assist the Guadalupe Centers, Inc's (GCI) Plaza de Niños preschool prepare young Latino children for early school success and help them with the necessary English language skills to successfully enter Kindergarten.

"Senator Bond has never wavered with his commitment to our community," said Mr. Cris Medina, GCI's Executive Director. "This grant will provide a daily vital service to our working parents as well and prepare our children for a better tomorrow."

Bond, a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, secured the \$500,000 earmark for the Guadalupe Center in the Labor, Health, and Human Services appropriations bill, one of the 11 appropriations bills included in the Omnibus Appropriations bill passed by Congress and signed into law by the President in February.



Bond announces \$400,000 for children's dental needs in southwest Missouri.

"High quality early childhood care and education programs have direct and significant benefits for children and families as well as for the community," Bond said. "Only by providing the best possible environment for children to learn and grow can we ensure that all children in Kansas City arrive at school healthy and prepared to learn."

Bond, Parents as Teachers and Children's Trust Fund Team Up to Prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome

Senator Kit Bond announced that he has partnered with Missouri hospitals, Parents as Teachers and the Children's Trust Fund to launch a statewide campaign to prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome. Bond made the announcement at the 20th anniversary celebration of both Parents as Teachers (PAT) and the Children's Trust Fund.

"I appreciate the opportunity to be here today to celebrate the 20th anniversary of two exceptional organizations – both of which I view as perhaps my greatest legacies as Governor," said Bond. "Also, I couldn't be more pleased to see two programs that have been intertwined from the very start embark on such an important collaboration – to prevent shaken baby syndrome."

Shaken baby syndrome is a severe form of head injury that occurs when a baby is shaken forcibly enough to cause the baby's brain to bounce against the skull. The injury may cause bruising, swelling, and bleeding of the brain, which may lead to brain damage or death. The condition is usually the result of non-accidental trauma or child abuse.

As Governor of Missouri Bond established the Children's Trust Fund in 1982 to prevent child abuse and neglect for Missouri's children and families. In 1984 Bond's long standing recommendation to establish a statewide Parents as Teachers Program was accepted. Since that time PAT has worked to help families deal with the challenges of raising a child.

"I would like to offer a special thank you to both the Children's Trust Fund and Parents as Teachers for your important work to support families and empower parents with the tools they need to provide healthy, nurturing and safe homes for children," said Bond. "Given the difficult times we live in today, your services are needed now more than ever."



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